

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of determining whether digital content is licensed to be provided to a client system, the method comprising:
 - ~~maintaining a unit of digital content at a content location on a server system, the content location having~~ receiving a content URL address for a content location on a server system at which a desired unit of digital content is stored;
 - ~~maintaining~~ identifying a licensing information address from the content URL address,
 - the licensing information address being different from the content URL address, ~~at a licensing information location on the server system~~;
 - ~~the licensing information location having a licensing information address~~;
 - ~~the licensing information location being separate from the content location~~; and
 - the licensing information further address comprising an address to a licensing information location at which is stored licensing having information for allowing the from which licensed content URL addresses may be identified, the licensed content URL addresses comprising addresses of locations of licensed units of digital content that the server system is authorized to provide ~~the unit of digital content~~ to a client system;
 - using the content URL address to identify the licensing information address;
 - using the licensing information address to access the licensing information at the licensing information location; and

~~comparing reviewing~~ the content URL address ~~[[with]]~~ and the licensing information to ~~confirm that the unit of digital content associated with the content URL address is licensed to be provided to the client system~~ determine whether the content URL address comprises a licensed content URL address.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~comparing~~ reviewing the content URL address ~~[[with]]~~ and the licensing information further includes:

determining a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information; and
comparing the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the content URL address.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein comparing the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the content URL address further includes:

confirming that the license covers the desired unit of digital content by
determining that the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information corresponds to the content URL address.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein the URL pattern corresponds to the content URL address when the URL pattern matches the content URL address.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 3, further comprising:
responding to the URL pattern that corresponds to the content URL address by
directing the client system to render the desired unit of digital content.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~using the content URL address to identify the licensing information address~~ identifying the licensing information address from the content URL address further includes:

determining at least one potential location for the licensing information on the server system based on a prefix of the content URL address.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, wherein the at least one potential location is determined through a directory system on the server system, the directory system having a root directory and at least one subdirectory.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, further comprising:
searching through the root directory for the licensing information.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 7, further comprising:
searching for the licensing information through the at least one subdirectory
where the desired unit of digital content resides on the server system
when:

the licensing information is not found through the root
directory, or

the licensing information found through the root directory
does not correspond to the desired unit of digital
content.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1,
wherein the end-user is a user of the client system;
wherein the client system is the content provider for the end-user; and
wherein identifying the licensing information address is in response to a request,
by the client system, to download the desired unit of digital content from
the content location ~~the server system~~ to provide to the end-user.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, further comprising:
responding to the request by:
delivering the desired unit of digital content to the client system,
confirming that a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information

corresponds to the content URL address; and
in response to confirming that the URL pattern corresponds to the content URL address, rendering the desired unit of digital content on the client system.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the licensing information includes a licensing key.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein the license key is an encrypted text file.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 12, wherein the license key comprises a first license key, and further comprising:
overriding any other license key on the server system when the first license key is located through a root directory of the content URL address.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~comparing~~ reviewing the content URL address ~~[[with]]~~ and the licensing information further includes:
determining whether the licensing information has been altered.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the licensing information further includes information pertaining to restrictions on rendering of the desired unit of digital content.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the licensing information further includes information about a feature of the desired unit of digital content that is enabled or disabled.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information indicates one or more licensed content URL addresses.

19. (Currently Amended) A tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions, which₁ when executed by a processor in a computer system, cause the processor to respond to a request to download a desired unit of digital content at a content location on a server system, the content location having a content URL address, by:

~~maintaining identifying a~~ licensing information ~~address from the~~
content URL address.

the licensing information address being different from

the content URL address, at a licensing-

information location on the server system;

~~the licensing information location having a licensing-~~
~~information address;~~

~~the licensing information location being separate from~~
~~the content location;~~ and

the licensing information further address comprising
an address to a licensing information location
at which is stored licensing having information
for allowing the from which licensed content
URL addresses may be identified, the licensed
content URL addresses comprising addresses
of locations of licensed units of digital content
that the server system is authorized to provide
the unit of digital content to a client system;

~~using the content URL address to identify the licensing information~~
~~address;~~

using the licensing information address to access the licensing
information at the licensing information location; and

~~comparing reviewing~~ the content URL address ~~[[with]] and~~ the
licensing information to ~~confirm that the unit of digital content~~

~~associated with the content URL address is licensed to be provided to the client system~~ determine whether the content URL address comprises a licensed content URL address.

20. (Currently Amended) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the instructions for ~~comparing~~ reviewing the content URL address ~~[[with]]~~ and the licensing information further include instructions to:
determine a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information; and
compare the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the content URL address.

21. (Currently Amended) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 20, wherein the instructions to compare the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the content URL address further include:
instructions to confirm that the license covers the desired unit of digital content by
determining that the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information corresponds to the content URL address.

22. (Previously Presented) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 21, wherein the URL pattern corresponds to the content URL address when the URL pattern matches the content URL address.

23. (Currently Amended) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 21, further comprising:
responding to a URL pattern that corresponds to the content URL address by
directing the client system to render the desired unit of digital content.

24. (Currently Amended) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the instructions for ~~using the content URL address to identify the~~

~~licensing information address~~ identifying the licensing information address from the content URL address further include:

instructions that determine at least one potential location for the licensing information on the server system based on a prefix of the content URL address.

25. (Previously Presented) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the at least one potential location is determined through a directory system on the server system, the directory system having a root directory and at least one subdirectory.

26. (Previously Presented) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 25, further comprising:
instructions for searching through the root directory for the licensing information.

27. (Currently Amended) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 25, further comprising:
searching for the licensing information through the at least one subdirectory where the desired unit of digital content resides on the server system when the licensing information is not found through the root directory, or the licensing information found through the root directory does not correspond to the desired unit of digital content.

28. (Currently Amended) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 19,
wherein the end-user is a user of the client system;
wherein the client system is the content provider for the end-user;
wherein identifying the licensing information address is in response to a request, by the client system, to download the desired unit of digital content from the content location on the server system to provide to the end-user.

29. (Currently Amended) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 28, further comprising:

instructions for responding to the request by:

delivering the desired unit of digital content to the client,

confirming that a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information corresponds to the content URL address; and

in response to confirming that the URL pattern corresponds to the content URL address rendering the desired unit of digital content on the client system.

30. (Previously Presented) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the licensing information further includes a license key.

31. (Previously Presented) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 30 further includes:

overriding any other license key on the server system when the license key is located through a root directory of the content URL address.

32. (Currently Amended) The tangibly-embodied computer-readable medium of Claim 19, wherein the instructions for processing the licensing information further include:

instructions that determine whether there are any restrictions on rendering of the desired unit of digital content.

33. (Currently Amended) A software system to determine whether a desired unit of digital content is licensed comprising:

a communications handler responsive to a request to download a desired unit of digital content at a content location on a server system, the content location having a content URL address; [[and]]

a licensing manager, in communication with the communications handler, the licensing manager being configured [[to]] for:

maintaining identifying a licensing information address from the content URL address.

the licensing information address being different from the content URL address, at a licensing-

information location on the server system;

the licensing information location having a licensing-information address;

the licensing information location being separate from the content location; and

the licensing information further address comprising

an address to a licensing information location

at which is stored licensing having information

for allowing the from which licensed content

URL addresses may be identified, the licensed

content URL addresses comprising addresses

of locations of licensed units of digital content

that the server system is authorized to provide

the unit of digital content to a client system;

using the content URL address to identify the licensing information address;

using the licensing information address to access the licensing information at the licensing information location; and

comparing reviewing the content URL address [[with]] and the

licensing information to confirm that the unit of digital content

associated with the content URL address is licensed to be

provided to the client system determine whether the content

URL address comprises a licensed content URL address;

and

the licensing manager providing authorization to the communication

handler to download.

34. (Previously Presented) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the communications handler or the licensing manager is associated with a runtime environment executing on a client system.

35. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 33, wherein a client system initiates the request to download the desired unit of digital content from the content location on the server system.

36. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager is configured to ~~compare~~ review the content URL address ~~[[with]]~~ and the licensing information ~~to confirm that the unit of digital content is licensed by:~~
determining a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information; and
comparing the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information with the content URL address.

37. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 36, wherein the ~~comparing licensing manager is further includes~~ configured to confirming, by the licensing manager, confirm that the license covers the desired unit of content when the URL pattern referenced in the licensing information corresponds to the content URL address.

38. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 37, wherein the licensing manager is configured to respond to a URL pattern referenced in the licensing information, ~~which~~ that corresponds to the content URL address by directing the client system to render the desired unit of digital content.

39. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager is configured to obtain the licensing information by determining, based on a prefix of the content URL address, at least one potential location for the licensing information on the server system, ~~the at least one potential location being based on a prefix of the content URL address.~~

40. (Previously Presented) The software system of Claim 39, wherein the licensing manager is configured to determine the at least one potential location through a directory system on the server system, the directory system having a root directory and at least one subdirectory.

41. (Previously Presented) The software system of Claim 40, wherein the licensing manager further includes:

a search routine to search through the root directory for the licensing information.

42. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 40, wherein, ~~when the licensing manager determines that licensing information is not found through the root directory,~~ the search routine is further configured directed to search for the licensing information through the at least one subdirectory which is the same directory where the desired unit of digital content is stored, ~~and resides on the server system~~ when:

the licensing manager determines that licensing information is not found through the root directory, or
the licensing information found through the root directory does not correspond to the desired unit of digital content.

43. (Previously Presented) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager further includes:

logic for forgoing processing of any other licensing information on the server system when the licensing information is located through the directory system, using a prefix of the content URL address.

44. (Currently Amended) The software system of Claim 33, wherein the licensing manager is further configured to determine from the licensing information whether there are any restrictions on rendering of the desired unit of digital content.

45. (Currently Amended) A system for determining whether a unit of digital content is licensed, comprising:

~~means for maintaining a unit of digital content at a content location on a server system, the content location having~~ receiving ~~a content URL address for a content location on a server system at which a desired unit of digital content is stored;~~

~~means for maintaining~~ identifying a ~~licensing information~~ address from the content URL address,

the licensing information address being different from the content URL address, at a licensing information location on the server system;

~~the licensing information location having a licensing information address,~~

~~the licensing information location being separate from the content location; and~~

~~the licensing information further~~ address comprising an address to a licensing information location at which is stored licensing having information for allowing the from which licensed content URL addresses may be identified, the licensed content URL addresses comprising addresses of locations of licensed units of digital content that the server system is authorized to provide the unit of digital content to a client system;

~~means for using a content URL address on a server system to identify the licensing information address;~~

~~means for using the licensing information address to access the licensing information~~ at the licensing information location; and

~~means for comparing~~ reviewing ~~the content URL address~~ [[with]] and the licensing information to confirm that the unit of digital content associated with the content URL address is licensed to be provided to the client

system determine whether the content URL address comprises a licensed content URL address.